

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Inventor : **Hideaki MONDEN, et al.**  
Filed : **Concurrently herewith**  
For : **OPTICAL DISK APPARATUS....**  
Serial No. : **Concurrently herewith**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

July 25, 2003

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

SIR:

In order to comply with discretionary regulations 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98, attached hereto is a copy of Form PTO-1449. Copies of such documents were made of record in the parent case, U.S. Patent Application No.: 09/939,530 filed August 24, 2001. These documents contain information which the Examiner may consider to be important in deciding whether to issue a patent in the instant application.

As this Statement is being filed prior to issuance of a first Office Action, no fee is due.

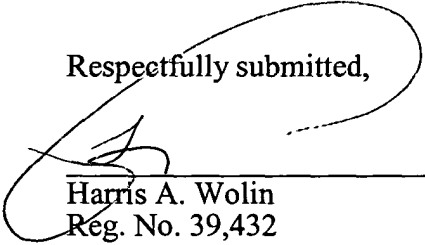
The present Disclosure Statement is being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR 1.56 as an Examiner might consider any cited document important in deciding whether to allow the application to issue as a patent, but the citation of each document is not to be construed as an admission that such document is necessarily relevant or prior art. No representation is intended that the cited documents represent the results of a complete search, and it is anticipated that the Examiner in the normal course of examination, will make an independent search and will

determine the best prior art consistent with 37 CFR 1.104 (a), and in the course of such search will review for relevance every document cited on the attached form even if not initialed.

Early and favorable consideration is respectfully solicited.

Any fee due with this paper may be charged on Deposit Account 50-1290.

Respectfully submitted,



Harris A. Wolin  
Reg. No. 39,432

Katten Muchin Zavis Rosenman  
575 Madison Avenue  
New York, NY 10022-2585  
(212) 940-8800  
Docket No: SCEY 18.950A

Please type a plus sign (+) → +

Patent and Trademark Office

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

1449/PTO

U.S. Department of Commerce

Patent and Trademark Office

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE****STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**Sheet 1 of 1

Application No. :

Filing Date :

First Named Inventor: H. MONDEN

Group Art Unit :

Examiner Name :

Attorney Docket No. : SCEY 18.950A

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	U.S. Patent Document	Kind Code if known <sup>2</sup>	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		5,724,337		KAWANO, et al.	03-03-1998	
		6,137,765		SAITO, et al.	10-2000	
		5,172,361		URUSHIBATA, et al.	12-1992	
		4,996,619		NEGISHI, et al.	02-1991	
		6,324,152 B1		EGUCHI, et al.	11-2001	

**FOREIGN DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document Office <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	Country	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		11-066568	JP	Sony Corp.	03-09-1999	
		2000-222754	JP	Matsushita Electric Ind. Co Ltd.	08-11-2000	

**Other Prior Art-Non Patent Literature Documents**

Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, country, where published, source.	Applicant check her if English language translation attached
Examiner Signature		Date Considered	

Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw a line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup>Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup>See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that Issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.1<sup>6</sup> if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.